

Double Shell Closure with Support Ribs
Serial No.: 09/876,336
Atty. Docket #: CG 838

IN THE CLAIMS

1-21. (withdrawn)

22. (currently amended) A container closure comprising:

- a. a top, having an interior surface and an exterior surface;
- b. an annular outermost skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said outermost skirt having a first face which faces inward toward the center of said outermost skirt, a second face which faces outward from said outermost skirt, a top edge which abuts said top, and a bottom edge, and said outermost skirt having a first diameter at the top edge of the outward face and a second diameter at the bottom edge of the outward face wherein said top diameter is greater than said bottom diameter causing said outermost skirt to have a frusto-conical configuration on the exterior surface;
- c. an annular innermost skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said innermost skirt having a first surface which faces inward toward the center of the skirt and a second surface which faces outward toward said outermost skirt;
- d. at least one thread attached to the inward facing surface of said innermost skirt; and
- e. at least one rib, depending from said top and extending radially along said top to said outermost skirt, said rib also being attached to the outward facing surface of said innermost skirt and said inward face of said inner outermost face skirt;
- f. said at least one rib having a first axial dimension at said innermost skirt and a second axial dimension at said outer skirt, said first axial dimension being less than said second axial

Double Shell Closure with Support Ribs
Serial No.: 09/876,336
Atty. Docket #: CG 838

dimension[[;]].

g. ~~said at least one rib being opposite an outer skirt rib extending along said outward face of said outermost skirt.~~

23. (currently amended) The closure of claim 22 wherein said innermost skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said innermost skirt.

24. (currently amended) The closure of claim 22 wherein said outermost skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said outer skirt.

25. (canceled)

26. (previously presented) The closure of claim 22 wherein said outer skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is shorter than the length of said outermost skirt.

27. (previously presented) The closure of claim 22 wherein said innermost skirt has a diameter that is less than the bottom diameter of said outermost skirt and said closure further includes an annular flange depending from the interior surface of said top and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said flange having a diameter that is smaller than the diameter of said innermost skirt.

28. (currently amended) A container closure comprising:

- a. a top, having an interior surface and an exterior surface;
- b. ~~an annular outermost skirt, depending from and being centered on said interior surface of said top, said outermost skirt having an inwardly directed first face, an outwardly directed second face, a top edge, and a bottom edge, and said outermost skirt having a first diameter at the top edge of the outward face and a second diameter at said bottom edge of said second face wherein~~

Double Shell Closure with Support Ribs
Serial No.: 09/876,336
Atty. Docket #: CG 838

said first diameter is greater than said second diameter;

c. at least one annular innermost skirt, depending from said interior surface of said top, said innermost skirt having an inwardly directed first surface and an outwardly directed second surface;

d. at least one rib, depending from said top and attached to said outwardly directed facing surface of said innermost skirt;

e. said at least one rib extending from said innermost skirt to said outermost skirt and being opposite an outer skirt rib located on an outer surface of said outermost skirt[.];

f. said at least one rib extending from said second face of said innermost skirt and said first face of said outermost skirt:

g. said rib having an axial length being substantially equal to said second face of said innermost skirt and said first face of said outermost skirt.

29. (currently amended) The container closure of claim 28 wherein said innermost skirt defines a first axial length and a first portion of said at least one rib has a length substantially equal to said first axial length.

30. (previously presented) The container closure of claim 29 wherein said outermost skirt defines a second axial length and a second portion of said rib has a length substantially equal to said second axial length.

31. (previously presented) The container closure of claim 28, said rib having a tapered lower edge.

32. (currently amended) A container closure comprising:

Double Shell Closure with Support Ribs
Serial No.: 09/876,336
Art. Docket #: CG 838

a. a top, having an interior surface and an exterior surface;

b. first and second concentric skirts depending from said interior surface of said top, said first skirt being an innermost skirt and said second skirt being an outermost skirt, said outermost skirt having a larger axial dimension than said innermost skirt;

c. at least one thread attached to an inward facing surface of said innermost skirt; and,

d. a plurality of ribs extending depending from said top and extending between said first and second skirts, said at least one plurality of ribs being opposite an outer skirt rib positioned on an outer surface of said outermost skirt;

e. said plurality of ribs each having further comprising a first portion extending from said innermost skirt toward said outermost skirt along said first skirt and a second portion extending from said outermost skirt toward said innermost skirt along said second skirt, said first portion having an axial dimension being shorter than an axial dimension of said second portion.

33. (previously presented) The container closure of claim 32, said outermost skirt having a first upper larger diameter and a second lower smaller diameter.

34. (canceled)

35. (previously presented) The container closure of claim 32 further comprising a flange depending from said interior surface of said top and having a diameter smaller than said first skirt.

36. (previously presented) The container closure of claim 32, said closure having a frusto-conical shape.

Double Shell Closure with Support Ribs
Serial No.: 09/876,336
Atty. Docket #: CG-838

37. (currently amended) A container closure, comprising:

a top wall and an outer skirt having a first diameter depending from said top wall;

an inner skirt having a second diameter smaller than said first diameter depending from said top wall;

a plurality of ribs depending from said top wall along an inner face of said outermost skirt and extending to an outer face of said innermost skirt;

said outer skirt being tapered and being frusto-conical in shape; ✓

each of said plurality of ribs being opposite an outer skirt rib positioned on said outer face of said outer skirt[.]);

each of said plurality of ribs being substantially L-shaped. ✓

38. (currently amended) The container closure of claim 37, each of said plurality of ribs having a first edge having a length equal to said outermost skirt.

39. (currently amended) The container closure of claim 37, each of said plurality of ribs having a second edge having a length equal to said innermost skirt.

40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) The container closure of claim [40] 37, said rib having a tapered lower edge.

42. (previously presented) The container closure of claim 37, further comprising an annular flange depending from and centered on an interior surface of said top wall, said annular flange having a diameter less than said innermost skirt.